AUTO CALL®

The Official Journal of the Foundation For Amateur Radio, Inc.

JUNE 1999

Rules and Regs • ARRL Report • VE Exams Schedule
Public Service Report • DX Column • Regional Hamfests
Club Reports • Shack Sales • Much More!

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In this month's issue . . .

Regular & Special Features:

Regional Hamfests 4
ARRL Report 5
Member Clubs 6
Rules & Regs 9
Amateur Radio Training 13
Examination Schedules 14
Shack Sales 35

Club Columns:

Anne Arundel Radio Club 18
Arlington Amateur Radio Club 18
Central Maryland Amateur Radio Club 23
Columbia Amateur Radio Association 23
Dulles Amateur Radio Group 24
Historical Electronics Museum ARC 25
Maryland Apple Dumpling Radio Am. Soc 25
Maryland Emergency Phone Net 26
National Capital ARES Council 27
Northern Virginia FM Association 28
Potomac Valley Radio Club 28
Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club . . 29
Southern Maryland Amateur Radio Club . . 30
Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club 31
The Middle Atlantic FM & Repeater Coun 31
Vienna Wireless Society 32
Woodbridge Wireless, Inc. 34

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Regional Hamfests and Other Events

June 4-6	Atlantic Division/New York State Conv., Rochester, NY	716-424-7184
June 6	Ole Virginia Hams ARC, Manassas, VA	703-369-2877
June 12	Forsyth ARC, Winston-Salem, NC	336-723-7388
June 12	Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention, Bloomsburg, PA	717-752-6851
June 13	Northern Kentucky ARC, Independence, KY	513-797-7252
June 13	Long Island Mobile ARC, Bethpage, NY	516-520-9311
June 13	Radio Amateur Club of Knoxville, Knoxville, TN	423-670-1503
June 19	Raritan Valley RC, Dunellen, NJ	732-968-7789
June 19	East River ARC, Bluefield, WV	540-326-3338
June 20	Father's Day Hamfest, Frederick Co. Fairgrounds, MD	301-695-2633 x6393
June 26	Joint Picnic and Field Day Event, Greenbelt, MD	301-262-7062
July 3	Rowan ARS, Salisbury, NC	704-636-5902
July 3	Murgas ARC, Wilkes-Barre (Dallas), PA	717-735-2385
July 10	Genesee Radio Amateurs, Batavia, NY	716-343-2844
July 11	Mid-Atlantic ARC, Kimberton, PA	610-293-1919
July 18	Jonestown Mountain Repeater Assn., Beach Haven, PA	717-864-2571
July 31	Kentucky Colonels ARC, Bowling Green, KY	502-842-3193

NEXT FOUNDATION MEETING

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. meets at 8: p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. **Visitors are always welcome!** The next meeting will be held on June 9th in Takoma Park, Maryland at Columbia Union College, HMS Richards Bldg., Flower Avenue (Take beltway exit 30, South on Colesville Road to Franklin Avenue, left on Franklin to Flower, right on Flower to Carroll Ave., left on Carroll to Greenwood Ave., left on Greenwood to 2nd building on left.

Talk-in on 146.55

On The Cover

Pictured on the cover of Auto Call this month is Charles Church, KA3COT and Ken Easton, N3HLY, both of the Prince George's Wirelss Association (PGWA). Charles and Ken participated in a Simulated Emergency Test (SET) at the PGWA radio room located in the P.G. County Red Cross building in Hyattsville, MD.

American Radio Relay League Report

By John Swafford, W4HU

The purpose of The ARRL Letter is to provide essential news of interest to active amateurs promptly and efficiently, and in advance of publication in our official journal, QST. The ARRL Letter strives to be fast, accurate, concise, and readable. Material from The ARRL Letter may be reproduced in whole or in part in any form, including photo reproduction and electronic databases. Credit must be given to The ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League.

HAMS HELP IN TRAGEDY'S WAKE

Ham radio operators have had a role in the aftermath of two recent incidents of random violence—the Columbine High School killings in Littleton, Colorado, and the shootings in a Salt Lake City, Utah, library where three people died a few days earlier.

Since the mayhem that left 15 people dead April 20 at Columbine High School, Amateur Radio Operators have supported Salvation Army canteens set up for law enforcement, the media, and the thousands of other people involved.

East Emergency Coordinator Larry Cerney, KØANI, said Amateur operators provided communication between facilities around Columbine High School, adjacent Clement Park, and the site of a makeshift memorial for the victims. Other operators supported the American Rad Cross.

Cerney said the support continued throughout last weekend's memorial services attended by Vice President Gore and other VIPs. "It seems that the local hams just had to help," he said. He said 25 to 30 operators worked three six-hour shifts from 6 AM until midnight, providing what Cerney described as mostly routine, logistical communication.

"I know all disasters are devastating to those involved," he said. Hurricanes and tornadoes may kill people and destroy homes and property, but the killing of kids by kids is something that I just cannot comprehend, no matter how far away or close to home."

Colorado Section Manager Tim Armagost, WBØTUB, expressed similar sentiments. "We Amateur Radio Communicators like to believe we are prepared, but no one could be prepared for the tragic events at Columbine High School on April 20," Armagost said. "The Colorado Section Amateur Radio operators join the community in expressing our shock, sorrow, and sympathy for those affected by this tragedy."

In Salt Lake City on April 15, a gunman walked into the Family History Library and started shooting, killing two and wounding five before police shot and killed the gunman. Two building employees and hams—Utah Amateur Radio Club member Spencer Wood, KB7KGE, and Davis County resident Dave Oswald, KD7DHO—put ham radio to use to help evacuate the building.

Wood, the assistant emergency coordinator for the library says he and Oswald—a floor emergency captain—spread the call to clear the building and used an amateur simplex channel to exchange information on the evacuation. After Wood had to leave the building, Wood relayed to police what he was hearing from Oswald inside the building. Wood credits ham radio with helping ensure an orderly evacuation.

Continued on page 7

MEMBER CLUBS

Alexandria Radio Club
AMSAT - Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation
Anne Arundel Radio Club, Inc.
Antietam Radio Association, Inc.
Arlington Amateur Radio Club
Baltimore Amateur Radio Club
Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society
Calvert Amateur Radio Association
Capital City Amateur Radio Society
Capitol Hill Amateur Radio Society
Carroll County Amateur Radio Club
Central Maryland Amateur Radio Club
Charles County Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Cheese Hollow Amateur Radio Society
Columbia Amateur Radio Association
Dulles Amateur Radio Group
Fauquier Amateur Radio Association
Frederick Amateur Radio Club
Green Mountain Repeater Association
Hanover Area Hamming Association
Historical Electronics Museum
    Amateur Radio Club
Laurel Amatur Radio Club
Leisure World Amateur Radio Club
MD/DC MARS (Navy Marine) Association
MADRAS
Maryland Emergency Phone Net
Maryland FM Association, Inc.
Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club
Metropolitan Communications Network
Metrovision Amateur TV Club
Mid-Atlantic DX & Repeater Association
Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club
National Capitol ARES Council
National Capitol DX Association
Naval Research Laboratory Radio Club
Northern Virginia FM Association
Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club
Opequon Radio Society
Potomac Valley Radio Club
Prince George's County ARES/RACES
Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc.
    Baltimore Chapter #20
    Vic Clark Chapter #91
St. Mary's County Amateur Radio Association
Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club
Silver Spring Metro Center Amateur Radio Club
Southern Maryland Amateur Radio Club
Stafford Amateur Radio Association
Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club
T-MARC, Middle Atlantic Repeater council
Vienna Wireless Society
Voice of America Amateur Radio Club
Washington Adventist Amateur Radio Association
Woodbridge Wireless, Inc.

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA SECTION PETITION FILED

A group calling itself the West Central Florida Section Committee has filed a valid petition with ARRL Headquarters to create a third section in the Sunshine State. The proposed West Central Florida Section would be created by carving ten counties out of the current Southern Florida Section.

Counties proposed for inclusion are Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lee, Manatee, Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota. The counties are home top more than 11,000 hams, nearly 3000 of them ARRL members.

The ARRL By-laws provide that a new section may be created from one or more existing sections. The most recent new ARRL section created was Northern New York in 1996. At present, there are 70 ARRL sections.

The initial petition, signed by at least ten full ARRL members, has been accepted for filing by League Headquarters. To be approved, however, the request still must overcome several procedural hurdles.

At this point, copies of the West Central Florida Section request are in the hands of Northern Florida Section Manager Rudy Hubbard, WA4PUP, Southern Florida Section Manager Kevin Bunin, K4PG, and Southeastern Division Director Frank Butler, W4RH, for their evaluation. Their review and a recommendation to accept or reject the request are due to ARRL Board Secretary and Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ by May 31.

Sumner will review the submittal, add his comments and recommendations in his role as Executive Vice President, and forward copies of the petition and related information on League membership to each member of the ARRL Executive Committee.

Following the review, the EC will send its recommendation to the full Board of Directors. The Board then will vote to accept or reject the petition. If accepted, the Board can authorize a mail vote of full members in the proposed new section. If a simple majority of eligible members voting approved the change, the ARRL Board then reviews the entire file and votes to approve or disapprove the requested change. That decision is final.

ARRL Field Services Manager Rick Palm, K1CE, says that even if the petition is approved at every step, it would not become effective until sometime next year.

West Central Florida Section Committee Chairman Paul Toth, K2SEC, says the proposal is aimed at improving ARRL representation and services for members living in the affected counties. If approved, the proposed 8320 square-mile section would be among the most densely populated. A plan to attract more people into Amateur Radio through education and outreach accompanied the committee's request.

The committee's Web site at http;// www.qsl.net/wcfla contains the full text of the petition and additional information.

ICOM AMERICA INC TO SPLIT INTO US AND CANADIAN ENTITIES

ICOM America Inc will split into two corporate entities—ICOM America and ICOM Canada—on July 1. ICOM America's President Bob Brunkow, K7NHE, will become sole owner of the ICOM Canada distribution business and will head north of the border to take over ICOM Canada as its new president and chairman. Brunkow, 52, has been with ICOM for nearly 28 years. He'll maintain a consulting role with ICOM America after the split, which he said was a result of internal restructuring on ICOM's part.

Continued next page

The Canadian company will be owned and operated independently by Brunkow and his family. Brunkow outlined the changes in an April 19 letter to the ARRL. Brunkow says he'll continue to operate ICOM Canada from its current offices in Richmond, British Columbia, with the existing staff of seven.

Hiro Nakaoka, JK3UZC, will become president of ICOM America. Nakaoka has been with ICOM Inc since 1984 and with ICOM America since 1994.

Brunkow is leaving ICOM America on a high note. He said the company completed its most successful business year ever in March. "It has been an exciting 'run' and a lot of fun seeing ICOM's progress in the North American market during this period of remarkable technological development," he said.

Brunkow said he and his wife, a Canadian, will establish a home in Canada and plan to get Amateur Radio call signs there. But he emphasized that he plans to continue to be a very active ham in the US and involved in the US Amateur Radio community. Brunkow is an ARRL life member.

IN BRIEF:

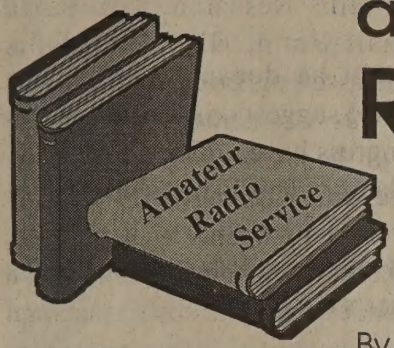
Texas PRB-1 bill goes to the governor. The Texas "tower" bill, HB 1345, is on its way to Gov George W. Bush for his signature. The measure would incorporate the essence of the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 into the stat's Local Government Code. It would require localities to comply with PRB-1 when regulating antenna placement, screening, or height based on health, safety, or aesthetics. Localities would have to "reasonably accommodate" amateur communication and represent the "minimal practical regulation" to accomplish the locality's legitimate purpose. The Texas law would not prohibit localities from taking action to protect or architectural districts. Gov Bush has 10 days to sign the measure, veto, or let it become law without his signature.

* Milestone acquires Oak Hills Research: Milestone Technologies Inc has acquired kit manufacturer Oak Hills Research. Milestone President, Marshall Emm, N1FN, says his company acquired all assets including the Oak Hills Web site. Oak Hills was started by QRP guru Doug DeMaw, W1FB. For the last nine years, it's been run by Dick Witzke, KE8KL, who will continue to provide service and alignments on a contract basis. Oak Hills Research will be operated as a separate division under the Milestone corporate umbrella. The immediate plan is to continue to produce the current line of kits, but Emm said the company is looking forward to adding new products. To contact Oak Hills Research, visit http://www.OHR.com or call 303-752-3382.

* The perfect H-T for Field Day? Just when you thought modern H-Ts had included just about every feature conceivable, along comes Alinco with its new DJ-195T that includes—get this—an experimental "mosquito repel" feature. Alinco USA Branch Manager Katsumi Nakata, KE6RD, says the unit emits an electronic tone to keep the annoying insects away from the vicinity of the radio. "It's a feature we added just for fun," Nakata said. "The mosquito repel feature could make the DJ-195T the first radio capable of de-bugging a Field Day operating position," he added with a smile. (Hmmm. Was that announcement dated April 1?)

* VE8AT on air from Nunavut: Thomas Atkins, VE3CDM, reports the VE8AT HF beacon now is operational from Nunavut (79,59.5 N; 85,54.0 W) on Nansen Sound, Ellesmere Island, some 300 miles SSW of Alert, the northernmost base in the world. Given the beacon's remote location, there are no immediate plans to change the call sign to reflect the new VYO prefix for Nunavut. The beacon operates on the usual NCDXF frequencies: 14.100; 18.110; 21.150; 24.930; and 28.200. See http://www.ncdxf.org/beacon.htm.

Rules and Regs



By Jack Kelleher
W4ZC

We still have no word on the outcome of the proposed restructuring of Part 97 of the FCC Rules. There is a possibility that something will surface at the Dayton Hamvention. Why the delay? My understanding is that — as was stated at the outset of the review — restructuring of Part 97 was only a part of the FCC 1998/9 review mandated by Congress.

FCC DROPS AMATEUR ENFORCEMENT LINE IN FAVOR OF E-MAIL, US MAIL (ARRL ltr v18 #18 4-30-99)

The FCC says it now wants Amateur Radio enforcement complaints via e-mail or US mail and has discontinued its Amateur Enforcement Line (202-418-1184). The FCC this week requested that amateur-related complaints be sent via e-mail to fccham@fcc.gov or via the US Postal Service to Compliance & Information Bureau, ATTN Amateur Radio Complaints, 1270 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

The FCC instituted the telephone service last fall when it beefed up amateur enforcement under the direction of Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH. However, the FCC never intended to maintain the telephone service permanently.

The FCC said this week that complaints already filed on the telephone service will be acted upon, and anyone who has left a message will receive a return call from Commission staff.

FCC SAYS NO TO EXPANDING SPECIAL EVENT CALL SIGN PROGRAM (ARRL Ltr v18 #18 4-30-99)

The FCC has denied the ARRL's petition (submitted May 18, 1998) that sought to expand the Amateur Radio special event call sign program. The League had asked the FCC to amend its rules to permit the use of special event call sign formats that go beyond the current one-by-one (1x1) format now authorized. The petition also had asked the Commission to include within the special event program call signs denoting US territories and possessions having no mailing address.

In an April 21 letter to League, D'Wana Terry, chief of the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division within the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau said the FCC was "not persuaded that the requested changes to the system are warranted at this time." (The League's petition was submitted May 18, 1998, but it was never assigned a rulemaking number or put out for public comment.) ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, called Terry's decision "somewhat disappointing."

Terry said the FCC has not received any indication from the Amateur Radio community that demand for special event call signs exceeded the number available. She also said the need to create additional formats was outweighed by the complexity of creating them.

She advised more experience with the current system before deciding to change it, and she urged the League to continue to monitor demand for special event call signs. Sumner said he was encouraged that the FCC, while denying the petition, had invited the League to revisit the issue later.

Continued next page

TEXAS PRB-1 BILL GOES TO THE GOVERNOR (ARRL Ltr V18 #18 4-30-99)

The Texas "tower" bill, HB 1345, is on its way to Gov George W. Bush for his signature. The measure would incorporate the essence of the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 into the state's Local Government Code. It would require localities to comply with PRB-1 when regulating antenna placement, screening, or height based on health, safety, or aesthetics. Localities would have to "reasonably accommodate" amateur communication and represent the "minimal practicable regulation" to accomplish the locality's legitimate purpose. The Texas law would not prohibit localities from taking action to protect historic or architectural districts. Gov Bush has 10 days to sign the measure, veto it, or let it become law without his signature.

ATTENTION LONG TIME WIRELESS OPERATORS (ARN 1128. 3-26-99)

The Registry of Senior Wireless Operators has a new certificate for those who have been on the air for more than a quarter of a century. According to Graham, the purpose of the Registry is to recognize wireless operators who have been licensed to operate transmitters with a power in excess of 100 watts for over twenty-five years. This includes all forms of wireless operators, whether the original license was military, commercial, or amateur. Full details may be found on the Internet at: http://www3.sympatico.ca/wrgraham

RESTRUCTURING THE FCC (ARN 1127 3-19-99)

A top federal legislator wants the FCC out of the regulatory business and to concentrate on making money for the federal government. Louisiana Republican Billy Tauzen says that the FCC needs to be revamped to have a competitive rather than regulatory mission. Tauzen is the chairman of the House Commerce on Telecommunications chairman. On Friday, March 12th he told reporters that he hopes to have a bill drafted by June detailing the changes in the FCC's mission and structure that congress would like to see implemented.

Tauzen says that he doesn't have many specifics and is open to suggestions. He and others Republicans in Congress have criticized the FCC for acting too regulatory. This is particularly true in areas such as the implementation of a 1996 law freeing cable, local and long-distance companies to get into each other's business.

Meanwhile, FCC Chairman Bill Kennard says that he is very interested in working with congressional lawmakers to help the agency run effectively into the 21st century. Kennard says that he will present an upcoming congressional Telecommunications hearing with a blueprint for restructuring the agency that would be open to public comment. He says that by the fall he would like to have a final plan in place.

What impact such a restructuring might have on Amateur Radio is hard to say, but it would definitely make any spectrum above 50 MHz - and possibly some in the shortwave region more vulnerable to reallocation and auction. This may well be the main reason that the ARRL is pressing so hard for the passage of its Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act. This as a way of insuring that hams have a place to operate no matter what happens to the mission and the structure of the FCC.

FCC Chairman Kennard prefers a two-tiered approach to restructuring the Commission. He says that part of the plan could be implemented by the FCC, itself but requires Congressional action first. It's not clear that any measure to overhaul the FCC could pass Congress and be signed into law. <*>

KENNARD: NO INTERNET REGULATION

FCC chairman William Kennard has taken on another challenge. That of convincing the public

Continued next page

that his agency is not about to begin regulating the Internet. The Federal Communications Commission was bombarded with e-mail from computer users fearing government regulation. On Thursday, March 11th, Kennard tried to dispel that notion stating that as long as he is chairman, the Federal Communications Commission will not regulate the Internet.

The FCC last month concluded that dial-up calls to the Internet are interstate communications and are subject to federal jurisdiction. Internet dial-up connections are now treated as local calls. The FCC has said this decision merely resolves a dispute among phone companies over how to compensate each other for Internet connections and how to clarify the role of state and federal regulators. The agency said the decision will not affect connect to the Internet or how much they are charged for the call.

Consumer groups and others believe the action could lead to higher Internet access charges in the future. But Kennard says that the FCC has no intention of making computer users pay long distance fees for dial-up access.

MORE FCC REGULATORY ACTIVITY (ARN 1127 3-19-99)

The FCC has written nearly two dozen Amateur Radio licensees whose 20 meter SSB signals were said to be "unusually wide, overpowered, or both." The FCC's Riley Hollingsworth did not identify the specific licensees involved, but he said some of them were believed to be mobile operators. Hollingsworth's letter said information received by the FCC indicates that the stations involved "ignored requests from other licensees operating on adjacent frequencies" to do something about the wide signals. He said the operations in question were believed to be confined to the high end of the 20 meter band, above 14.300 MHZ.

The letter from Hollingsworth to 22 Amateur Service licensees requests fixed and mobile station information about the use of and specifications for any linear amplifiers employed on 20 meters as well as the use of automatic level control and mike gain settings. The affected licensees have 20 days to provide answers to the FCC. Hollingsworth's letter pointed out that hams are prohibited from occupying more than the necessary amount of bandwidth for the particular mode and that hams must use the minimum power "necessary to carry out the desired communications."

IARU INCREASE LIKELY (ARN #1127. 3-19-99)

On the International scene, there is important news affecting member societies of IARU Region One. In a recent meeting in London, the financial status of the organization was addressed with consideration given to the a major fee increase for member societies. Also discussed was the building global pressure on the Amateur spectrum and the need for closer co-operation between societies to combat legislation that threatens the service.

FCC OFFICIAL ACKNOWLEDGES OOs REALLY ARE "OFFICIAL" (ARRL Ltr v18 #15 4-9-99)

The FCC's top amateur enforcer, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, says that hams who receive notices from ARRL Official Observers should take them seriously or take the consequences. "Failure to take the notices seriously and to take corrective action where possible will not be tolerated by the Commission Hollingsworth said in an enforcement-related letter to a South Carolina amateur. "The volunteer work of these Official Observers is a critical element of the Commission's enforcement program," he said, adding that failure to act on an OO notice could lead to fines and other sanctions.

Hollingsworth's comments were contained in an April 7 station-inspection follow-up letter to Richard Whiten, WB2OTK, of Easely, South Carolina. Hollingsworth and an FCC engineering team visited Whiten's station on January 22 after

Continued next page

what Hollingsworth called "longstanding complaints" about the operation of Whiten's station. Whiten reportedly cooperated in the station inspection. According to the FCC letter, the Commission has received "numerous complaints" about Whiten "regarding profanity, obscenity, broadcasting extreme racial slurs, deliberate interference and failure to properly identify." Hollingsworth also said he'd heard complaints that Whiten had played recordings over the air "for the purpose of harassment or deliberate interference." Hollingsworth noted that Whiten had "apparently ignored notices from Official Observers," and pointed out that the volunteer OOs work "in accordance with an agreement between the Commission and the ARRL and in accordance with our statutory authority."

FCC ISSUES STRENGTHENED SCANNER RECEIVER RULES

The FCC has amended its rules to strengthen existing prohibitions on scanning receivers that can receive cellular telephone transmissions. While the new rules contain specific exemptions for the Amateur Service, they will have important ramifications for the manufacture of new Amateur Radio equipment that scans frequencies outside the ham bands.

The new rules—released March 31 in a Report and Order—broaden the definition of a scanning receiver to include receivers that automatically switch among two or more frequencies between 30 and 960 MHz that can stop at and receive a detected signal. Still exempted are receivers designed solely for operation as a part of a licensed station. In response to an ARRL request, the FCC clarified that the rules do not apply to Amateur Service receivers unless they cover frequencies outside the ham bands.

The FCC also widened its definition of "test equipment" exempted from the cellular reception restriction. The adopted definition defines test equipment by function, rather than by end user as proposed, thus permitting sale to the general public. Receivers that allow reception of cellular frequencies because of their poor image response would be illegal under the new rules. As it proposed, the Commission adopted a 38 dB rejection standard for signals in the cellular bands "for any frequency to which the receiver can be tuned."

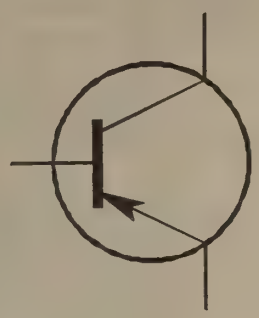
The FCC abandoned a proposal to require manufacturers to limit reception of cellular service frequencies by "direct pickup" through the cabinet. The FCC also backed away from a proposal that could have required epoxy potting and nonremovable components to prevent scanner modification. The League had argued that this could raise the cost of buying and repairing equipment and could preclude ham gear modification for CAP and MARS or for experimental purposes.

The FCC adopted a more generalized requirement that receivers be designed so that tuning, control circuits, and filtering be inaccessible, and that any attempted modifications render the receiver inoperative.

The new FCC rules also prohibit modification of scanning receivers as a business or on an ongoing basis "regardless of the date of manufacture or number of units modified." The Commission also said modification of any scanning receiver is prohibited and invalidates the equipment authorization. New, permanent labels on scanning receivers also will be required.

Kits for scanning receivers would be treated the same as assembled equipment. The League plans to look closely at this provision to make sure it will not prevent amateur manufacturers from producing legitimate transverting equipment.

The new rules become effective due 30 days after their publication in The Federal Register, but the FCC said it will include "transitional provisions" in its rules. A copy of the Report and Order is available on the ARRL Web site at http://www2.arrl.org/announce/et98-RandO.html



Amateur Radio Training

John Forrest WZ4A
6111 Burnett St., Alexandria, VA 22310
(703)971-3905

Please send announcements for training classes and club training contacts to WZ4A at the above address. Deadline is the 25th of the 2nd month prior to the *Auto Call* publication date (e.g., 25 December for the February issue).

Club Training Contacts

Alexandria RC	Rich Adamy KA4GFY	(703) 644-3920
Anne Arundel RC	Tony Young WA3YLO	(301) 262-1917
Arlington ARC	Mike Callaham NW3V	(703) 241-5618
Antietam Radio Assn.	Robert Long KD3JK	(301) 824-5132
BRATS (Baltimore)	Joe Chidester W3SHZ	(410) 602-0353
Baltimore ARC	HAM-TALK, BARC Voice Mail	(410) HAM-TALK x3835
Central MD ARC	Jim Tilton KD3JA	(301) 552-0012
Dulles ARG	Michael Weber WB8RDN	(703) 450-2304
Fauquier ARA	Neil Spokes AB4YK	(540) 364-3861
Frederick ARC	Hal Silverman W3HWC	(301) 831-7946
Historical Electronics ARC	Rol Anders K3RA	(410) 796-4792
Laurel ARC	Pud Reaver W3YD	(301) 498-6293
Mid-Atlantic DX Assn.	Michael Vaia, WB8VBW	(301) 738-3861
Madras	Larry Ziecheck, N3GKZ	(301) 984-6113
MD Mobileers ARC	Bruce Colburn AA3KR	(410) 437-1891
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Mt. Vernon ARC	John Forrest WZ4A	(703) 971-3905
NASA/Goddard ARC	Vikki Gigante KA3PVS	(301) 249-2609
Ole VA Hams ARC	Charles Dale WA4YGI	(703) 361-3091
Pentagon ARC	David Boyd K9MX	(540) 659-6241
St. Marys Co. ARC	Peter Butt WA3UMY	(301) 862-2214
Shenandoah Val ARC	Fred Wetzel W4KRT	(540) 678-0394
Southern MD ARC	Vic Curtis WA3YUV	(301) 888-1388
Southern Pax ARC	Dwayne Kincaid WD8OYG	(410) 586-2177
Stafford Adult Ed	Jerry Mullinix AC4HK	(540) 659-3905
Sterling Park ARC	Forrest Snyder N4UTY	(703) 430-4149
Tri-County ARC	John Creel WB3GXW	(301) 572-5124
Vienna Wireless	Kurt Wehle, WA4SMI	(703) 534-3905
Woodbridge Wireless	Jim Duffey WD4AIR	(703) 491-3170

The Foundation For Amateur Radio, Inc.

Washington, DC

Volunteer Examiner Cooperative

JOHN FORREST WZ4A
6111 Burnett St.
Alexandria, VA, 22310
(703) 971-3905

* Volunteer Examiners may refuse to test any applicant who fails to demonstrate to the VE's satisfaction that the memories in the applicant's calculator are empty. If you bring a calculator to an exam, please be prepared to demonstrate that your memories are empty.

* Effective January 1, 1999, the maximum FCC authorized exam fee is $6.49.

1999 Schedule of Examinations

June 3 (Thursday)	**Martinsburg, WV** - Mid-Atlantic DX and Rptr Soc. and Winchester ARS (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Limited Walk-In. Contact: Greg Lanham KU4AN (540)722-4792 kuan@visuallink.com Alan Moeck WA2RPX (540)869-1117 arm@visuallink.com
June 6 (Sunday)	**Landover, MD** - DCMARC (W5YI VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 Day (301)773-2898 Night
June 12 (Saturday)	**Alexandria, VA** - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: John Forrest WZ4A (703)971-3905. Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Oscar Ramsey NV3G (301)262-3392
	Cumberland, MD - (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Gay Rembold W3DFW. (301)724-0674
June 13 (Sunday)	**Middletown, VA** - Winchester ARS (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Limited Walk-In. Contact: Greg Lanham KU4AN (540)722-4792 kuan@visuallink.com Alan Moeck WA2RPX (540)869-1117 arm@visuallink.com

June 15 (Tuesday)	**Annapolis, MD** - Maryland Mobileers ARC (Laurel VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Limited Walk-In Contact: Lois Turner (410)647-4178
June 19 (Saturday)	**Laurel, MD** - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC) Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM
July 1 (Thursday)	**Martinsburg, WV** - Mid-Atlantic DX and Rptr Soc. and Winchester ARS (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Limited Walk-In Contact: Greg Lanham KU4AN (540)722-4792 kuan@visuallink.com Alan Moeck WA2RPX (540)869-1117 arm@visuallink.com
July 10 (Saturday)	**Sterling, VA** - Dulles ARG (ARRL VEC) Walk-In Contact: Mike Weber WB8RDN (703)450-2304
	Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: John Forrest WZ4A (703)971-3905 Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Oscar Ramsey NV3G (301)262-3392
July 14 (Wed.)	**Winchester, VA** - Shenandoah Valley ARC (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Limited Walk-In, Contact: Fred Wetzel W4KR (540)678-0394 Greg Lanham KU4AN (540)722-4792 kuan@visuallink.com Alan Moeck WA2RPX (540)869-1117 arm@visuallink.com
July 17 (Saturday)	**Laurel, MD** - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC) Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM
	Fredericksburg, VA - Fredericksburg VE Team (ARRL VEC) Walk-In Contact: Carolyn Cavanagh AC4SK (540)373-0572

Don't forget to bring your license when upgrading!!

July 25 (Sunday)	**Hagerstown, MD** - Antietam Radio Assn. (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In. Contact: George Carpenter N3QFS (301)842-3130. Bob Long KD3JK (301)824-5132
August 14 (Saturday)	**Alexandria, VA** - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: John Forrest WZ4A (703)971-3905. Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Oscar Ramsey NV3G (301)262-3392
	Cumberland, MD - (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Gay Rembold W3DFW (301)724-0674
August 21 (Saturday)	**Laurel, MD** - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC) Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM
August 31 (Tuesday)	**Annapolis, MD** - Maryland Mobileers ARC (Laurel VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Limited Walk-In Contact: Lois Turner (410)647-4178
September 2 (Thursday)	**Martinsburg, WV** - Mid-Atlantic DX and Rptr Soc. and Winchester ARS (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Limited Walk-In Contact: Greg Lanham KU4AN (540)722-4792 kuan@visuallink.com Alan Moeck WA2RPX (540)869-1117 arm@visuallink.com
September 11 (Saturday)	**Alexandria, VA** - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: John Forrest WZ4A (703)971-3905 Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Oscar Ramsey NV3G (301)262-3392
September 12 (Sunday)	**Middletown, VA** - Winchester ARS (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Limited Walk-In Contact: Greg Lanham KU4AN (540)722-4792 kuan@visuallink.com Alan Moeck WA2RPX (540)869-1117 arm@visuallink.com

Don't forget to bring your license when upgrading!!

Volunteer Examiner Cooperative

EXAM FEES:

* Check for appropriate exam fee. Fees and modes of payment for individual VECs and exam teams may vary.
* ARRL VEC exams cost $6.45
* Laurel VEC exams are free
* W5YI VEC exams cost $6.45

BRING TO EXAM:

* Picture identification
* Completed FCC form 610 (most VE teams will supply at exam)
* Original and a copy of current FCC amateur radio license
* Originals and copies of all active certificates of successful completion of prior exams
* Exam fee (check or cash depending on VE team)

"GRANDFATHER" CREDIT FOR ELEMENT 3B (GENERAL WRITTEN):

* If you presently hold a Technician class license which was first issued prior to March 21, 1987, you may be grandfathered for Element 3B (General class written exam) by presenting the original and a copy of the license dated prior to March 21, 1987 to the VE team. It is your responsibility to prove that you are entitled to grandfathering. Do not lose your original license!

RULES FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE FAR VOLUNTEER EXAMINER COOPERATIVE:

1. All submissions must be in writing
2. Date and day of week must be specified for each exam date
3. Point of contact and phone number must be specified
4. Sponsor and location must be specified
5. VEC must be specified
6. Exam dates up to 12 months in advance will be accepted
7. Deadline for submission is 25th of the 2nd month prior to publication date (e.g., January 25 for March issue)

AARC Anne Arundel Radio Club

Meetings: 8 PM 1st and 3rd Thursdays, Davidsonville Family Recreation Center, Queen Anne Bridge & Wayson Roads off MD Rt. 214 near Annapolis.
On the air: 2030 Thursdays when there is no club meeting on 147.705/105. Tuesdays at 2030 local time on 28.410. Wednesdays at 2000 on 444.400. The Chesapeake Weather & Traffic Net on 147.705/105 at 1100 and 1500 every weekend day and public holiday from April 1 to November 15. MSN (Maryland Slow Net) every evening at 1930 on 3.7170 MHz.
Address: P.O. Box 308, Davidsonville, MD 21035.
Information: Margaret (Holly) Bevan, 410-923-0229.

At the April 15th program meeting, Henry Lee/KB1PE gave an informative and educational presentation on low frequency transmission. The attendees gave him their rapt attention.

Volunteer communicators were kept really busy during the month of April. On Saturday April 17th, a small group of club members worked the "Walk for Hunger" at the Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds. Ken Queen/N3MCY was the coordinator.

On Sunday April 18th, a group of ten volunteers were on hand early at Central Middle School to do the communicating for the Striders' Cherry Pit 10-mile race. The coordinator was Rob Levin/W3RUM.

Then on April 25th, a dozen club members, coordinated by Dave Evartt/N6TAU, furnished communications for the annual "March of Dimes" which began and ended at the Navy-Marine Corps Stadium.

Nine members of the recently completed Novice Class have their licenses. Several others have partially completed their requirements. They hope to finish at the next testing session.

Boaters, don't forget to check into the Chesapeake Bay Traffic and Weather Net on holidays and weekends at 1100 and 1500.

At the clubhouse on April 10th, Coordinator Oscar Ramsey/NV3G, Harold (Ham) Molz/N3FDH, Bob Rose/AA3RR and Ben Frederick/W3OBV gave 27 tests to 16 persons. Nine tests were passed with four upgrades. Other members of the team included Harlan Ray, III/AA3FE and Herb Elkin/NA1VY. The next testing session at the clubhouse will be on June 12th.

73, Holly/N3MB

Arlington Amateur Radio Club

Meeting: Third Tuesday of each month, 7:30 P.M., Red Cross building, 4333 Arlington Blvd., Arlington, VA. Nonmembers welcome!
Net: Tuesdays (except meeting nights), 7:30 P.M., 144.87/145.47 Mhz FM.
Information: Mike Callaham, NW3V @ W3TOM, callaham@tmn.com, (703) 241-5618.
WWW: http://www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/Lab/4306/

Instead of meeting at the regular location, the Arlington Chapterhouse of the American Red Cross, the group assembled at the Arlington Country Emergency Communications Center (1400 N. Uhle St., 385822N0770509W), home of the 911 and radio dispatching center. President Jack WA4FXX called the meeting to order at

Continued on page 22

GREEN MOUNTAIN REPEATER ASSN.
in association with the
GODDARD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

JOINT PICNIC
&
FIELD DAY EVENT

SATURDAY, JUNE 26th
GODDARD RECREATION CENTER
Greenbelt, Maryland
11am - 5pm

- ***FREE:*** **BURGERS, HOT DOGS, SODA, POTATO SALAD, BAKED BEANS**
- **PLAY AREA FOR THE CHILDREN; SOFTBALL FIELDS.**
- ***PATIO TABLES WITH UMBRELLAS.***
- **PLENTY OF ROOF COVERED BARBECUE FACILITIES.**
- ***INDOOR SEATING FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER; REST ROOMS.***
- **SPACE MUSEUM ACCESS AND VISITOR'S CENTER NEARBY.**

(Bring along your own food/drink if you wish to do so.)

IMPORTANT PLEASE: To save your club money we must know how many will attend. Please call Don Tinari, W3RYQ, 301-262-7062 or send Email to donturk@erols.com **not later** than June 19th. **Let's make this a big turnout in support of both clubs and Field Day. Plenty of opportunity to operate HF under supervision of station licensee. Thanks.....**

DIRECTIONS: From the Beltway or B&W Pkwy, take Greenbelt Rd East. Turn left onto Soil Conservation Road. Turn right at first entrance to the Recreation Center. **Talk-in on 146.880, 146.835, 146.610. Arrangements will be made for access by non Goddard employees.**

MANASSAS HAMFEST

"Always the First Sunday in June"

AMATEUR RADIO, ELECTRONICS & COMPUTER SHOW

(ARRL APPROVED HAMFEST)

Presented by:

OLE VIRGINIA HAMS A.R.C., INC.

(A non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Amateur Radio)

SUNDAY - JUNE 6, 1999

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

½ MILE SOUTH OF MANASSAS, VA. ON ROUTE 234 TALK-IN 146.97- & 224.660-

INDOOR EXHIBITOR SPACE	GENERAL ADMISSION	TAILGATING
2 Buildings with Electricity 140 8-foot tables (Setup 2 PM till 8 PM Saturday)	$5.00 per person at gate No Advance Sale Gates open at 8:00 am Free Parking	$5.00 per space (plus admission) Gates open at 7:00 AM Ample Room - 25 acres (Setup 2 PM till 11 PM Saturday)

PRIZES

- Hourly prizes beginning at 10 AM for those present
- Door Prizes of major radio and computer equipment awarded at 3:00 PM
- Tailgating prize will be awarded at 3:00 PM
  (You do not have to be present to win the major prizes)

INFORMATION

- ARRL Roanoke Division Officers will be attending
- 4th Call Area QSL Bureau Representatives will be present
- DXCC QSL Card Checkers will be available
- "Virginia QSO Party" Award Ceremony
- Food Vendors must have prior written approval from Hamfest Chairman

HAMFEST DETAILS on our Web Page http://www.qsl.net/olevahams

Dealer Information:
Jack (N4YIC) 703-335-9139
email: patnjack@erols.com

General Information:
Mary Lu (KB4EFP) 703-369-2877
email: mblasd1638@aol.com

Announcing the

☞ 1999 ☜

FATHER'S DAY HAMFEST

brought to you by the

Frederick Amateur Radio Club

Sunday, June 20, 1999

8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Frederick County Fairgrounds

797 E. Patrick St. Frederick, Maryland

- Radios • Electronics • ARRL VE Testing •
- Giant Outdoor Flea Market • Computers •
- Indoor Commercial Area • Rain or Shine •

Good Food & Refreshments Available

(No outside food or drink vending, please!)

✓ Easy Access & Parking ✓ Clean Restroom Facilities ✓ On-Site Security ✓

Talk-In: Call *AJ3RM* on:

Primary: 146.640(-) *Secondary:* 147.060(+) *Simplex:* 146.520(s)

- General Admission..... $5.00 per person donation
- Tailgating Spaces..... $5.00 ea. + 1 general admission
- 6' Vendor Tables (indoors).... $10.00 ea. *prepaid by June 1st*
  $15.00 ea. *after June 1st*

We appreciate (and offer a 33% discount on) all advance, prepaid reservations for INDOOR tables. Vendors please print your *NAME, ADDRESS, COMPANY NAME, PHONE* and *NUMBER OF TABLES REQUIRED* and send with *CHECK/MONEY ORDER* payable to Frederick Amateur Radio Club to:

Frederick Amateur Radio Club
c/o Vendor Coordinator
P.O. Box 1074
Mount Airy, MD 21771

☞ For more information call the *SOUNDSOURCE* anytime at (301) 695-2633 code: 6393 ☜

73, AND SEE YOU AT THE FARC *FATHER'S DAY HAMFEST*

1945L. Also attending were Kay KC4ATV, Tom N4BYF, Walt KT4EL, George KR4MU, Alan KO4ALA, Mike KA8OPJ, Dennis W4PWF, Chester KB4UGP, Mike NW3V (with wife Theresa and son David), Susan Aarhus of the Red Cross. The minutes of the March meeting as published on the Web page, and the treasurer's report as submitted, were approved.

W4PWF reported on recent FAR and ARRL news. Virginia has just allowed ARRL logo license plates, in addition to traditional callsign plates. The initial fee will be $20 ($10 for the regular plate plus $1 for callsign plus $9 for logo). Dennis has been kept busy with answering inquiries and assisting in the processing.

WA4FXX displayed the brochure prepared to invite hams to Field Day (FD) activities, and to enlist them for potential service in disasters beyond our current capabilities. The brochure will be mailed to licensees in Arlington.

N4BYF announced that as a result of corporate maneuvers, our bank has begun charging for the club s checking account. Kay will try to share information on a bank that recently provided free service to another non-profit club (DAR).

A motion by KO4ALA, seconded by W4PWF, passed unanimously, that Treasurer N4BYF try to transfer the checking account to a nonprofit account (if the DAR s bank will accept), and otherwise authorize N4BYF to transfer all but $50 to a savings account, retaining the $50 for petty cash. KC4ATV will inform Tom of the name of DAR s bank.

KO4ALA announced the ARES Institute for served agencies on 4/28, and training on 5/1 at the New Baltimore (Warrenton) fire department site. The latter certifies for the new state-issued ID. See the ARES-VA web site for further information.

Bids have been solicited and received for electric generator equipment at the chapter house. In the spirit of spring cleaning, Alan wishes to clear some clutter from the radio room, and to take an equipment inventory. These will be begun at the May meeting, along with preparations for FD. FD will be held at the chapter house again, since that would be our major site for most emergencies.

There was a brief description of plans for Y2K events on 1/1/2000, with a comment that some UNIX systems also trip on 2/29/2000 and 3/1/2000.

Susan Aarhus noted that this was National Volunteer Recognition Week, and gave special recognition to KR4MU as a new member of the Disaster Assistance Team. George takes a turn carrying a Fire Department pager, and performs some Red Cross administrative functions (vouchers, etc.) at disasters. Thanks, George.

Next month KC4ATV will speak on the Navy-Marine MARS system, an their involvement in emergency communications.

The formal meeting was adjourned at 2025L. Afterwards, Her Majesty the Radio Goddess Lisa hosted us on a tour of the of the ECC.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike KA8OPJ, Secretary

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Licensed at least 25 years ago?
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Then you should belong to the
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For information write:
159 E. 16th Ave., Dept F
Eugene, OR 97401-4017
http://www.qcwa.org

Central Maryland Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: 4th Friday of the month at 7:30pm, at the Doctors Community Hospital, 8118 Good Luck Road, Lanham, MD (no meeting in December). Enter in the Outpatient Testing entrance across from the Emergency Room entrance behind the main building. Take the elevator to the 5th floor and exit left, the meeting room (DSE Room) is on the right.
Repeater: N3EZD/R 145.230 Mhz. Transmit a 110.9 Hz CTCSS Tone for full area coverage. No tone necessary for local coverage.
Net: Every Tuesday, 9:30pm, 145.230 MHz repeater.
Mailing Address: Central Maryland Amateur Radio Club, P. O. Box 788, Greenbelt, MD 20768-0788.
Information: Jim Tilton, Pres. - KD3JA, (301) 552-0012.)
Web Page: http://www.erols.com/jctilton/cmarc/.

April 23 Meeting

CMARC's April 23rd meeting focused primarily on plans for upcoming activities. CMARC is coordinating Crop Walk communications again this year (see below). We are also plan to participate in a 4-Wheel Drive Emergency Transportation/Communications Dry Run exercise with the P. G. Co. ARES, which is now tentatively scheduled for June 19th. Plans for Field Day June 26th-27th, being organized by Chuck/N3ODK, were also discussed.

New Repeater Antenna

Our new repeater antenna was finally installed on March 20th. Have you noticed any difference? We have received several reports of noticeable improvement in coverage. Thanks to Mike/N3EZD for leading the installation effort, and to Euclid/N3VPV and Jim/KD3JA for their assistance. Also thanks to Mike/N3UEZ for storing the antenna all winter while we waited for good weather!

Church World Service Crop Walk

CMARC coordinated Amateur Radio communications for the Church World Service (CWS) CROP Walk in the Hyattsville, MD area on May 2nd. The CROP Walk raises funds for Help-by-Phone, a local hunger relief organization, and for the worldwide programs of CWS. CWS programs support self-help development, provide for emergency needs, and help address the root causes of poverty and powerlessness.

73 de Jim/KD3JA

Columbia Amateur Radio Association

Club meeting: Every fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Bethany United Methodist Church on Bethany Lane in Ellicott City. Monitor net repeater for directions.
Repeaters: 147.735/147.135 (cross-linked to 222.32/223.92). Net Repeater. PL control of 156.7. 147.990/147.390. Open autopatch and direct dial 911. 222.32/223.92 (cross-linked to 147.735/147.135). 443.275/448.275 PL control of 156.7. 444.475/449.475. Autopatch & 911.
Mailing: Columbia Amateur Radio Assoc. (CARA), Box 911, Columbia, MD 21044.
Web Page: http://www.qsl.net/cara/
Activities: CARA breakfast: 9:00 a.m. on the second Saturday of the month at Jilly's Restaurant in the Enchanted Forest Shopping Center on Rte. 40. Contact Bob/KC3EV by 6:00 p.m. the day before the breakfast.
Information: Bob/KC3EV, 410-465-2421

There Ain't Nothing Like Home Brew Dave Prestel (W8AJR), CARA Vice-president, conducted a survey of our members to determine what programs they wanted at club meetings this year. The overwhelming response was home

brewing. With that in mind CARA will spend the balance of the year working on some practical skill building and project assembly.

At our April meeting Jon Wilson (KF3BO) demonstrated a range of kits and "from scratch" projects he has assembled over the years. It was a good introduction to the possible. In June soldering experts from NASA and the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory will demonstrate professional soldering techniques. They will not only show some of us which end of the iron is the most comfortable to hold while soldering, but will have a few tips for the old pros too.

In July everyone will begin to build a store-bought kit and participants will assemble and de-bug the kits. August will feature troubleshooting and the basic equipment and techniques for identifying and fixing problems. In September members will build a project from scratch. This will give everyone some experience in scrounging parts, making calculations, winding coils, and trying to make something whistle and hum.

CARA will be at the regular Field Day location at Clarksville Elementary School this year. We usually set up a 2A operation for Field Day and again this year we are interested in making sure everyone has a chance to operate and have fun. We plan to take the club on the road for the August QSO Party and dispatch several mobile units. I'll report more on this in later issues.

de Tim/W1TRT

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Dulles Amateur Radio Group

On-the-air meeting: Tuesdays at 9:00pm on the Dulles repeater
Repeater: N4FSC, 145.310- (near Dulles airport)
Mail: Dulles Amateur Radio Group, P.O. Box 5073, Herndon, VA 20172-1964
Home Page: www.darg.org.
Email: darg@darg.org.
Club callsign: W4DLS
Information: Mike Weber, WB8RDN, 703-450-2304.

The DARG Annual Membership meeting was held on April 25. The following members were elected to the Board of Trustees: Bill/W3EMH will continue as Membership Coordinator/Treasurer. Mike/KD4ITN will continue as your Net Manager. Marcia/KD4ITP our delegate to FAR. Louis/N4KWP will be in charge of New Initiatives. Rikk, KG4AAO will be wearing 2 hats. He is in charge of Technical Systems as well as running the DARG Web page. Yours truly will be taking over as the Public Relations Trustee.

Mike/WB8RDN is stepping down from the Board for a much deserved break. We wish to thank Mike for all his dedication and hard work as Chairman these past few years. Also taking a break is Bob/AB3H. He ran the web page and reported on DARG in these here pages. Mike and Bob your work did not go unnoticed. Thanks again.

THIS JUST IN..... The Tuesday night net will move to 21:00 hours local time beginning June 1. It is anticipated that the time change will encourage more net participation. Members and non-members are urged and invited to check in.

Field Day plans are still being finalized. I looks like we will join our sister club SPARC again this

year for Field Day.

Exam Session: DARG has schedule July 10 and October 30 as our next 2 exam sessions. The time for both dates will be from 08:45-12:00. Please Note: We will be conducting these exams at St. Matthews Church on East Frederick Drive in Sterling. Contact Mike/WB8RND at 703-450-2304 or check out our web page further info.

Speaking of our web page: Our web address is still the same BUT you must re-bookmark it due to a change in servers. (open your browser type in http://www.darg.org then bookmark it and delete the old bookmark)

till next month, 73, de Kevin/W4KLS

Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month, 5:30 PM, In the Historical Electronics Museum, West Nursery Road and Elkridge Landing Roads. Linthicum, Maryland (Next to BWI Marriott Hotel).
Info: Nick Yokanovich, K3NY 410-544-5736
Club Station: W3GR.
Mail: P.O. Box 746, Mail Stop 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203.
Web Page: http://members.aol.com/wk3p/se.htm
Street address: 1745 W. Nursery Rd., Linthicum, MD 21090.

HEMARC is busily occupied in planning the 1999 Field Day. Dean Bush, Sr. K3KHG is gathering desires and commitments from all the members. Three tents a planned thus far and a good around the clock effort seems highly likely. Plans are for two HF, one Novice and one Satellite station.

The club contributed four operators to the SR3 [Third Submarine Radio-Room Reactivation] aboard the TORSK on April 24 and 25. The volunteers for operating NK3ST were: Nick Yokanovich, K3NY; Sam Bryant; KB3CYU, John Bruns; K3DAZ and Chip Weems, W4PBG. It was a fun activity for all.

Planning continues for the 155th Anniversary of the first Telegraph line on May 22 and 23.

73 Chip W4PBG

The Maryland Apple Dumpling Radio Amateur Society, Inc.

Meetings: 2nd and 4th Thursdays - 7:00 P.M. St. Paul's Church, 10401 Armory Avenue, Kensington, Maryland 20895.
Clubhouse: MADRAS Clubhouse, 11800 Coakley Circle, Rockville, MD 20852
Nets: 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 9:00 P.M. on 145.45 MHz (PL-5A).
Repeaters: 444.100/449.100 MHz (PL-2A), 145.45/144.85 MHz (PL-5A).
WWW Address: http://www.3phase. com/madras/
Mailing: P. O. Box 2468, Wheaton, MD 20902
Information: Leo Boberschmidt W3LEO (301)946-3738, Jean Blacik N3PLC (301) 984-6114.
Club Call Sign: W3MAD
E-Mail: leob@erols.com

Howard Gordon, W3CQH, presented a program on "Ham Towers - An Overview", at our April 8th meeting. Towers are always of interest to our members and a lively discussion followed the program. Thank you, Howard, for a most interesting evening.

Dinner at the Far East restaurant on April 22nd was a pleasure, as usual. Various topics were discussed and debated during the evening.

Hard to believe that another year has passed and we're getting ready for Field Day '99. MADRAS will be setting up operations at the same location as last year. You will find us in the parking lot of the Charleston Business Center, 11800 Coakley Circle, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

Last year we had several visitors drop by our site and wander around while we operated. Several people stayed and had some light refreshment with the group and asked questions about what it takes to become a ham. Of course our members were more than delighted to answer their questions and fill them in on the process.

If anyone is interested in joining our group for Field Day '99, please contact Jean N3PLC or Leo W3LEO at the numbers listed for them in the Header Information.

MADRAS extends BEST WISHES FOR AN EXCITING AND SUCCESSFUL FIELD DAY '99 to all the clubs who are participating in the event this year. We look forward to hearing from all of you.

73, Jean-N3PLC

Maryland Emergency Phone Net

Meetings: Nightly, 1800 Local, 3920 kHz
Directors: KG6TU, K3GK, K3TNM
Alternate Director: WA4GGH
Manager: KE3OX,
Secretary/Treasurer: W3YD.
FAR Representatives: KZ3AB, WA3YLO

The Maryland Emergency Phone Net (MEPN) is a section net of the National Traffic System. Its purposes are to provide efficient coordinated radio communication in time of emergency, to provide a means for people commonly interested in amateur radio to associate, and to further better cooperation among its members and the general community.

The officers include Mark Dudley KE3OX as Net Manager, and Pud Reaver W3YD as Secretary/ Treasurer. The directors are Dave Furman KG6TU, George Korper K3GK, and Bill Bennett K3TNM. Al Brown KZ3AB and Tony Young WA3YLO are the MEPN representatives at FAR meetings.

The MEPN meets every night at 6:00 PM local on 3920 kHz to pass traffic within the state of Maryland and the District of Columbia. Liaisons to nets in the states of Delaware and West Virginia are available.

Every Saturday prior to the regular net session there is an on-air director's meeting at 5:45 PM local to discuss net issues. All appropriately licensed amateur operators are invited to participate in MEPN operations, even if they are not members.

The MEPN is always looking for amateurs interested in traffic handling or just checking in to the net. For information, contact Pud Reaver W3YD at 301-498-6293 or HYPERLINK mailto:preaver@erols.com) preaver@erols.com.

Bill Bennett K3TNM took over as director on April 15. Bill replaces Bob Bradt W3BOB, who declined run for another term.

The MEPN membership met twice during the BARC hamfest at Timonium.

Provisional family memberships were approved by the membership. Pending further review by the directors, members belonging to the same family unit and living at the same address would be eligible for a family membership.

Tony WA3YLO reported that the annual traffic handlers' picnic will be held on Saturday July 10 at the Anne Arundel Radio Club grounds (last year's site). Current invitees are the MEPN, BTN, MSN, and MDD.

National Capital ARES Council

NCAC Net: Sunday at 9 PM on 146.655(-)
Voice mail: (703) 359-3414.
E-mail: NCAC@usa.net.

NCAC Presents Served Agency Institute

NCAC put on an NCAC Institute for served agencies on April 28. After a presentation on RACES & ARES organization and capabilities, representatives from Maryland Emergency Management Agency, Virginia Department of Emergency Services, American Red Cross National Headquarters and National Weather Service participated in a roundtable discussion.

Invited representatives supplied ample examples of amateur radio support and appreciation for dedicated service during natural and manmade disasters near and far.

Several jurisdictions are already planning to activate amateur radio on New Year's Eve in preparation for the possibility of Y2K related communications needs.

Attendees generally agreed we should consider "packaging" the materials or production of a video to reach a wider audience. If anyone has the interest, experience and resources for such a production, let us know! Thanks to Dick WA4USB, George KR4MU, Alan KO4ALA, Erv KT4DS & Lenny N3RPQ for helping with the set-up.

Weather Spotters Needed

By the time this issue of Autocall comes out, summer weather and hurricane season will be upon us. Check the Skywarn webpage for upcoming severe weather spotter training (there's a convenient link from ARESVA.org), check into the NCAC Net for available classes or call (703)260-0106.

Upcoming Events:

NCAC has "put a ribbon" on several projects recently. The calendar is down to two events, but there is always plenty to do.

Some events have been all day or overnight (Massanutten Mountain 100 Mile Run & 150k Bike Tour), requiring extraordinary support making it necessary to pull in volunteers from long distances. Anytime you would like to help, please call, even if you can't stay for the entire event! Even short-term volunteers can make a huge difference when it comes to giving others breaks and meals.

Thanks to all those who have come out this spring and the families and sometimes employers who manage without us while we participate in public service activities.

I hope everyone will come out for the Old Virginia Hamfest at Manassas on June 6. We plan to sell ARES and Skywarn shirts and caps—keep an eye peeled for all that ORANGE!

The next NCAC meeting will be held on June 19th at a location to be announced.

NCAC holds a public service net on Sunday night at 9 on 146.910 (-). Everyone is welcome. Please check in!

You can contact NCAC by voice mail at (703)359-3414 or e-mail at NCAC@usa.net.

Chapter X

Society of Wireless Pioneers

THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF PROFESSIONAL RADIO TELEGRAPHERS

For Information Call
(703) 536-9537

Northern Virginia FM Association

Meetings: Fall, Winter and Spring at Virginia Power, On Rt 50 just west of the West Ox Road overpass and the Fair Oaks Mall.
Weekly Nets: NVFMA FM Clinic, 1st Wed of the month, 7:30 PM, 146.790; NVFMA Net, Wed, 8:00 PM, 146.790; ARES, Sun, 9:00 PM, 146.910.
Repeaters: 224.100, 146.790, 146.910, 447.025, operating.
Membership info: Jeff McWhirt, KC4RON, (703) 330-7429 or email to mcwhirtj@erols.com . Email Address: nvfma@juno.com
Web Site: http://www.qsl.net/nvfma
Mailing Address: NVFMA, P. O. Box 486, McLean, VA 22101

Every 1st Wednesday night of the month at 7:30 PM, the NVMA has a FM Clinic Net. The FM Clinic provides on-the-air information on how accurately your radio is tuned, its modulation level and whether or not your signal is properly deviated. All satellite receivers are disabled during the clinic, so your signal must be strong enough to reach the main site in Fairfax and activate the test equipment.

John B. (K4KXK) who chairs the Technical / Operations Committee and who also serves as NVFMA's TAG Director has indicated that all repeaters are open to all user's. All members enjoy autopatch on all machines. Those repeaters are; 146.790 - / K4KXK / John; 146.910 - / KF4QQP / Wallace; 447.025 - (100.0 pl) / KA3RQR / Shawn; 224.100 - / W4YHD / Steve; which are currently operating at this time.

John (K4KXK) would also like to thank KA3RQR, W3RST, KF4LWX, KF4JQE, K6LEW, KM40I, KF4QQP, KC4RON, for helping move 3 repeaters to their new location last month.
Jim, KF4JQE

Potomac Valley Radio Club

Packet: K3MQH 145.63, K4FJ 145.77, KE3Q 145.57 445.375, N3RR 145.51 441.325, N4OHE 145.71 440.925, N4SR 145.63, W3LPL 145.59 441.25, WR3L 145.61 440.95.
Web: www.pvrc.org & www.pagesz.net/~pvrcnc
Repeater: 147.000(-) Thanks to Ashton RCS
Information: Bob Dannals, W2GG@amsat.org, 410-472-2004 before 9pm and Rich Boyd, KE3Q@erols.com, 301-464-8014.

This column will provide the casual operator with sufficient information to participate in selected HF and VHF contests during June. Times are given in EDT though, if you keep a log, it should be in UTC (Zulu) time. You do not have to be a member of any club or send in a score to enjoy operating in contests and help others earn points. Please contact any PVRC member for information about contests or PVRC membership. Or connect to one of the above packet nodes. PVRC is a non-dues club.

June 5th and 6th, you may hear stations calling CQ PVRC. This is the annual club reunion (not really a contest) that is open to over 600 PVRC members. If your not a members of PVRC and have a growing interest in contesting, you may wish to call or write KE3Q or myself and join PVRC prior the reunion next year.

ARRL VHF QSO Party, 12th 2pm to 13th 11pm. 50, 144, 222, 902, 1296, and 2300 MHz bands. Work anybody and exchange grid-squares. Signal reports are optional. Most serious VHF contesters use SSB and CW but the hungry contesters watch for simplex FM contacts and are glad to explain the contest and exchange. The best FM channels to check are 52.525, 146.55, 146.58, 223.50, and 446.0 MHz. Also, check 52.54,

146.48, 147.42, and 446.10 MHz. Only the Field Day rules allow use of 146.52 MHz for contest contacts.

West Virginia QSO Party, 13th 2pm-8pm. SSB: 1860, 3860, 7260, 14260, 21360, and 28360 kHz. CW: 1810 kHz and 35 kHz above band edge, novices 25 kHz up from their edge. WV stations send RS(T) and county while others send RS(T) and state.

ARRL Field Day, 26th 2pm to 27th 2pm (except field stations can go to 5pm if setup started after 2pm Saturday). All amateur bands excluding the 10, 18, and 24 MHz bands. The exchange is the number of transmitters in use, entry category, and state. Categories are A=club portable, B=Non-club portable, C=mobile, D=Home commercial power, and E=Home emergency power. Example: a single transmitter home station in Virginia using commercial power would send 1D VA.

SHAREWARE CONTEST SOFTWARE CT 6.26, with updated country and section files, is available FREE from K3DI to anybody living in the PVRC club area of Southern PA, MD, DE, DC, WV, VA, and Northern NC. Preferred distribution is via email attachments.

73, Dick Wilder, K3DI, 410-757-6706,
wilder@clark.net, or 913 Shore Acres Rd,
Arnold, MD 21012-1724

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Licensed at least 25 years ago?
And licensed now?
Then you should belong to the
Quarter Century Wireless Association
For information write:
159 E. 16th Ave., Dept F
Eugene, OR 97401-4017
http://www.qcwa.org

Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: First and Third Friday of every month at 7:30 p.m. SVARC Club House 2921 Grace Street, Winchester, Virginia.
Repeater: 146.22 In/ 146.82 Out.
Net: Shenandoah Valley Emergency Net (SVEN) 7:15 daily on 146.22/146.82 Repeater.
Mailing: P.O. Box 139 Winchester, 22604.
President: Wayne Koehler, KE4PMS
Info: Wayne Koehler, 540-667-8629.
Internet home page: http://www.vvalley.com/svarc.

April was a busy month for the SVARC. Two scheduled work days at the club house (April 3rd and 23rd) to do tower maintenance produced less than we had hoped to achieve. Well, they say April showers bring May flowers, so maybe we will get a good day of tower maintenance in during May and finish that job.

Another club work day on April 20th at the North Mountain repeater site had an excellent turn out of 16 members. The clearing of much undergrowth on the property and relocating the building was accomplished. We now have power in the building and the packet node is running in an evaluation mode. Many thanks to all those who came out that Tuesday and helped get the job done. The SVARC provided support for several community events in April.

On Sunday April 11, club members went to the Fort Valley area to provide the radio communications for the Old Dominion "No Frills" Horse Ride. Irv Barb/W4DHU and Jane Barb/KD4IET coordinated the communications. Other SVARC volunteers were Wes Laudermilk/KD4GDY, Dave Watterson/N4DAW and Guy Avey/W3INT.

Dave Watterson N4DAW coordinated the March of Dimes-Walk America event held on

Saturday, April 24th in Frederick County and in Winchester, VA. The club manned a base control station at the Winchester Medical Center, provided portable communications at five rest stops and ran the sweep vehicle at the rear of the pack. SVARC volunteers were Guy Avey/W3INT, Ed Nail/N4EDN, Wayne Koehler/KE4PMS, Christine Kestner/KF4VED, John Roberts/WA4JR, Brian Mawhinney/WB3FUM, Dave Adsit/KG4BIR and Dave Watterson/N4DAW.

Club members also went to Fort Valley on Saturday April 24 to provide limited support to the Dogwood Half Hundred Run. SVARC volunteers were, Christov Ashton/KF4ZPX, Tom Sullivan/KD4WSM, John Roberts/WA4JR, Christine Kestner/KF4VED and Guy Avey/W3INT.

The finale for April was our support of the 72nd Shenandoah Valley Apple Blossom Festival activities, namely the 10K RUN and the two Parades. Radio communications with the Winchester City Police Dept., by aiding them with information and assistance with the "line up" of marching units in both the Firefighters Parade and the Grand Feature Parade was greatly appreciated by the Police Dept. The 10K RUN went off on schedule with SVARC members posted at key intersections reporting pertinent information for race officials.

Tom Sullivan/KD4WSM and Irv Barb/W4DHU coordinated the details of the Apple Blossom week-end. Other SVARC volunteers were Mike Collins/W4ACC, Dave Adsit/KG4BIR, Jason Mawhinney/KG4ASB, Bill Dunn/K4TIX, Rick Choy/N3HXT, Guy Avey/W3INT, Wayne Koehler/KE4PMS, Ted Ruble/KQ4TL, Jane Barb/KD4IET, Joe Mettle/AA3EU, Jim Hodson/KE4JJR, John Roberts/WA4JR, Christine Kestner/KF4VED, Tracy Mawhinney/KF4ZFY, Brian Mawhinney/WB3FUM, Ed Nail/N4EDN, Romie Nickles/KF4NDM and Randal Rizer/KG4AWK. The community could not have ordered better weather than we had this year.

A reminder that the SVARC will be starting the Beginners Morse Code Training on Wed, June 2nd, 7:00PM at the club house, 2921 Grace Street in Winchester, VA.

For more information contact:
Fred Wetzel 1-540-678-0394 hwetzel@adelphia.net or Greg Lanham 1-540-722-4792 kuan@visuallink.com

73 until next time.... Guy, W3INT

Southern Maryland Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: 2nd Friday of each month at 1930 ET at the PG County Police, Clinton Station, 6707 Groveton Drive, Clinton, Maryland.
Nets: Tuesday at 2000 on 147.15+ Repeater; Wednesday at 2000 on 1.865 (+/-QRM); Thursday at 2000 on 28.447 USB.
Repeater: WA3YUV/R 147.15+, Brandywine, Md. PL 114.8, Autopatch to 911.
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 273, Cheltenham, Md, 20623
Information: Vic (WA3YUV) & Linda (KA3VNI), (301) 888-1388.
Internet: http://www.iscanit.com/smarc

Greetings to all SMARC members and friends! At our April 9 meeting, Jack N3MPS, agreed to assume the duties of SMARC Historian. We discussed potential locations for Field Day, and as of the first of May, the discussions and negotiations are continuing. We also discussed the situation with terrific interference in the Oxon Hill area. And, like everyone else, we talked about the YK2 situation.

Our program was presented by Frank, N3OCW, on the topic of "First Responder" — or what to do if you happen to be the first to arrive at the scene of an accident .. oops, we don't say "accident" any more, it is a "crash." Anyhow, it was a very interesting and enlightening presentation from Frank, who is very knowledgeable in this area. Frank also showed a video of controlled crashes

between various size vehicles, busses and motorcycles.

Best wishes to two of our SMARC members who were hospitalized in late April: Hank, W3FVD, and Dee, N3HOV. Hope they are doing well by now and continuing their recovery. A warm SMARC welcome is extended to our newest member, Lowell KB3DQN, of Clinton.

As the new SMARC Historian, Jack N3MPS is establishing a SMARC web page at http://www.qsl.net/smarc/ for the purpose of maintaining SMARC history and a forum for exchanging current information. This page is linked to, and supplements, the official SMARC page maintained by Ric KK4GV at http:www.iscanit.com/smarc — Check it out!

Remember, dues are due in May. So, if you haven't paid yet, now is the time!

When you read this in late May, keep in mind Field Day is just around the corner, the last full weekend in June as always .. this year, June 26-27..

Hope to see you there !! 73, CUL, Al W2GJS

Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: 8:00 P.M. - Third Monday of the month except July and August at Sterling Community Center Annex, Church Rd. (Rt. 625) near Route 28, Sterling, VA.
Mailing: Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167.
Information: Bill Lorentz, KS4II, 703-444-6341 or via email KS4II@AOL.com.
Home Page: www.qsl.net/sterling
Club Callsign: K4NVA

Eighteen members attended the April SPARC meeting. Ray Mullins, KD4RSL gave an excellent demonstration on how to fabricate an inexpensive 3 element beam for 2 meters. The antenna was made from 8 awg ground wire and a 1" square 3' long piece of wood. The driven element is "folded" to match the antenna impedance to the 50 ohm coaxial cable. The ground wire may be twisted with a drill to add stiffness and prevent "drooping" of the elements. The same basic design can be used from 6 meters and up in frequency, also additional elements may be used to improve the gain and directivity.

Thanks to Ed Lockhart, K4GEL and Dick Maylott, W2YE for their efforts in scoring and cross-checking all of the entry logs for the 1999 Virginia QSO Party. The results will be available at the Manassas Hamfest in June.

Award presentations will also be made at Manassas and the results will then appear on the SPARC website at www.qsl.nst/sterling.

Start dusting off all of your Field Day gear June 26 & 27 are coming up fast!

73, Bill, KS4II

The Middle Atlantic FM and Repeater Council, Inc.

Meetings: Coordinating Committee (CC) meets the last Monday of each month, 19:30, in the conference room of the Prince George's County Emergency Operations Center.
Address: P.O. Box 1022, Savage, Md. 20763-1022 for all correspondence.
Internet:www.T-MARC.org.
E–mail: TMARC@T–MARC.org
Officers: President – Larry DiAnna WA3KOK (410) 792-3494, ldanna@teamvideo.com. CC Chairman – Bill Conaway W8HNT (703) 741-4251, conaways@erols.com. Ombudsman – Jim Erickson K3LFO (410) 549-1041 k3lfo@erols.com. Public Info. Officer – Dave Prestel W8AJR (410) 203-9432 dprestel @sprintmail.com.

A proposed new band plan for the 440 MHz band is likely to become the hottest new topic of the year, especially if other states choose to follow California's lead.

The following paragraphs, taken from a report to the NFCC by Bill Kelsey, W6QC, of SCRRBA, describe the proposed new plan. I would be interested in any comments, pro, or con. Send your thoughts via e-mail, or in care of T-MARC's PO Box. de W8AJR

The Southern California 440-450 MHz ARS community on Saturday, May 1 at a band planing meeting hosted by SCRRBA in Claremont, CA adopted a new band plan for it's region utilizing 20 kHz spacing for 16K0F3E compliant equipment for the 440-450 MHz sub band (repeater inputs are 440.020 thru 444.980 with outputs from 445.020 thru 449.980).

This plan is to take effect immediately with the completion of the change over of all systems to the 20 kHz spacing to be completed by May 1, 2000.

The move in frequencies per 100 kHz blocks is to be as follows:

X.X00 does not move
X.X25 moves to X.X20 (5 kHz down)
X.X50 moves to X.X40 (10 kHz down)
X.X60 is the new channel created
X.X75 moves to X.X80 (5 kHz up)

So, for an example, with the first 100 kHz block at 446.000 the channels now are:

446.000
446.020
446.040
446.060
446.080

The plan contains other changes such as additional repeater/ remote base pairs (the new channels), additional simplex channels, additional repeater test pairs, additional voice "ground use only" mobile extender and garage remote channels and additional open repeater channels. Also a new "remote base only" simplex channel was created at 449.460 MHz.

SCRRBA will issue an official press release on behalf of the Southern California 440-450 MHz community in the next few days and I will post it here also. More details and info are, and will be available on the SCRRBA web site (http://www.scrrba.org/).

Vienna Wireless Society

Meetings: 7:30 pm the second and fourth Fridays of the month in the cafeteria of the Vienna Elementary School, 128 Center Street South, Vienna, VA 22180.
Nets: Pow-Wow nightly at 9 pm on 28.444 MHz. Slow speed code, nightly 8:30 pm on 28.390 MHz. Vienna Emergency Net, Wednesday 7:30 pm 146.685(-).
Repeaters: K4HTA 146.685(-), 448.375(-).
Information: Steven Karty, N5SK, president, (703) 938-5454; Programs: Mike Steussy, AE4R, (703) 281-0010.
Mailing: P.O. Box 418, Vienna, VA 22183

At the Vienna Wireless Society (VWS) Meeting on 9 April, Patrick Ramsey, N3MIT (representing The RF Connection in Gaithersburg, MD), spoke on bonding cables to ground rods and other connections. His showed the equipment, procedures, and results of using a Thermite-type metal joining process called "CadWeld." He noted that this process is especially good for metal junctions exposed to outside conditions because the two metals are fused together to make a strong, low resistance connection.

Meeting Location: Pete Sypher reported that the renovations to the Vienna Community Center

are supposed to be completed in July, but we will definitely continue meeting in the Vienna Elementary School through June.

Public Service: Mike, K3MT, enlisted several VWS members to give a demonstration of amateur radio for a cub scout Webelos den.

Pete Sypher, KC4SI, reported that the Rose-Hulman Institute of Terra Haute, IN is sponsoring a solar-powered car race from Washington, D.C. to the Epcot Center in Orlando, FL and needs radio support at check-in points along U.S. Route 29 on 20 June. Several VWS members expressed interest in supporting this project.

Ray Johnson, K5RJ, said he had talked to the head of the Vienna Chamber of Commerce and they were interested in VWS supporting the annual Halloween Parade in October.

It was noted that there is a public service net on the 146.91 MHz repeater at 9 PM on Sundays.

Training: Kurt Wehle, WA4SMI, reported that the Technician class of 14 students was moving to Tuesdays and would stay at the Vienna Elementary School.

The regular membership meeting scheduled for 23 April was canceled so we could hold our annual VWS Banquet on that day instead. This year, it was at The Old Country Buffet in Fairfax, VA at 8 PM.

The featured speaker was ARRL Roanoke Division Vice Director, Dennis Bodson, W4PWF. Dennis led off his talk with an explanation of the new ARRL-logo license plates which (thanks to Dennis and the ARRL) will soon be available to all ARRL members who live in Virginia.

350 applications must be received before the Virginia DMV starts making them, which will probably be within the next three to four months. After that, they will be available at all Virginia DMV locations.

Dennis answered several questions about the new plates in relation to the regular amateur radio plates, including how you can't have two sets of plates with the exact same callsign.

He noted that a vehicle with amateur plates must have an amateur radios inside, but a radio can be temporarily removed for up to 90 days.

Dennis also explained how ARRL members can have an alias for their incoming e-mail messages, so that any messages sent to their callsign followed by @ARRL.NET will automatically be forwarded to any other e-mail account that they wish.

Dennis commented favorably on the FCC license restructuring and increased enforcement, and concluded by answering questions on the ARRL and also Virginia antenna laws.

More information is available about the ARRL e-mail forwarding service by going to http://www.arrl.org/ and clicking on MEMBERS ONLY. After joining, or if you've already joined, you can click on "go right to it." Then click on "The ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service" and go from there.

Orders are now being accepted for the ARRL-logo license plates for Virginia, which Dennis was so instrumental in arranging. A picture of a sample license plate is on the Internet at http://www.arrl.org/divisions/roanoke/va-license.html and you can go to http://www.arrl.org/divisions/roanoke/about-plates.html to download an application form.

QRP Field Day: Bernie Stuecker, K4XY, headed QRP Field Day on 24 April at Glyndon Park. Set-up commenced around 10 AM, with operations starting at noon. Some members brought rigs and operated (Bernie using an ICOM IC-760 and Mike, AE4R, using a Heath HW-7), some operated (Steve Margrave, N4ANT), and a few came to add morale support by just watching and eating.

PROGRAMS

14 May - A trio of our members, Bernie Stuecker, K4XY, Bernie Wimmers, N4JDF, and Bill Steinbach, N9CG will discuss the VWS repeaters.

28 May - TBD
11 June - Slide Show on Dayton Hamvention
25 June - Show & Tell Meeting. Members will bring in and talk about anything they think is interesting (including old "boat-anchor" equipment, QSL cards, projects, guests, stories, etc.).

FIELD DAY

26-27 June - Mike Toia, K3MT mentioned that the we will again operate from Burke Lake Park. Mike asked all band captains to sign up by 1 June, and he requested that all rigs be manned and operating full-time.

73, Steven - N5SK
N5SK@ARRL.NET

Woodbridge Wireless, Inc.

Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month at Springwoods and Chaucer, Lake Ridge, VA.
Net: Monday nights at 2000 on 147.24 with 224.78 link.
Packet: N4SR 145.63 (DX packet cluster)
Luncheon: Every Friday at noon. Check-in on 147.24 for location.
Repeaters: WB4FQR 147.24 (+), WB4FQR 224.78 (-), WB4FQR 444.90 (+), N4LJZ 147.585 simplex PL-100 HZ
Mailing: PO Box 112,Woodbridge, VA 22194
Information: Bob Graham, K4RG, 703/878-0697
Web Page: http://www.pwcweb.com/wwi/

The President of Woodbridge Wireless, WD4KOF, has set up a special committee named the "Repeater Relocation Committee" (RRC) in order to focus attention on relocating the equipment from the Tackets Mill repeater site.

The Prince William County Service Authority is currently erecting a new water tower near Potomac Mills which will be completed in November 1999, at which time the Tacket Mills water tower (where we currently have 3 of our 4 repeaters located, plus a 220 beacon) will be disassembled.

This will be a significant undertaking - locating potential new sites, evaluating and choosing the best one, planning and executing removal of all equipment from one site and reinstallation at another site, and reallocation of funds to accomplish this task.

The committee will report at each WWI monthly meeting, and will be dissolved at the conclusion of the repeater's relocation.

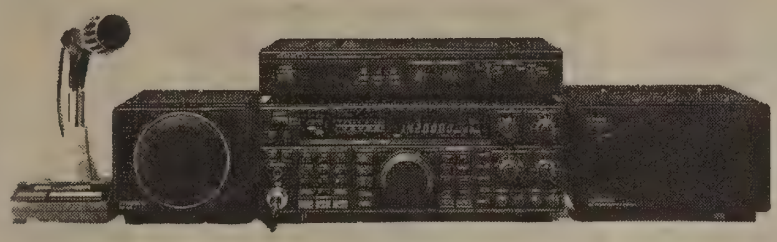
Meanwhile, plans are underway for another great WWI field day. The field day site will be at the McCoart County complex, East of last year's site. Check the WIRELOOSE for details.

Six students from the WWI tech class have taken their Technician test. The results weren't available at press time.

The 1999 Spring crew season has concluded with over 300 hours of volunteer service. This worthwhile effort enhanced the rowers' safety on the river, in addition to providing vital support to the race officials.

Thanks to Carl KB2ECN, Roy AC6JN, Denis W4DC, Burl KC5TLC, Dale WA2IKI, Jim WD4AIR, Jessie KT4UK, Mark KE4TKU, and Max KG4BHS.

Lastly, the new auto patch code the 147.24 MHZ repeater is effective on June 4th.



SHACK SALES

Non-commercial advertising of Amateur associated equipment is available to subscribers of *Auto-Call* at the rate of **5** cents per word with a **$2.00 minimum**. Commercial vendors and non-subscriber rate is 17 cents per word with a $5.50 (1 inch) minimum. Special headings or special spacing (e.g. one item per line) may be used but such ads will be charged at the column inch rate.

Estate sales for Widows assistance handled by a FAR club will be published without cost.

Your full name and address must be provided with each ad but need not be published. No ads will be accepted over the telephone and all ads must be prepaid. Ads that will be running for longer than 1 month must be accompanied by a letter stating the length that the ad is to be run. Since no effort is made to investigate advertisers, no warranty can be implied. Copy MUST be received by the 1st day of the month prior to the month of publication.Send all commercial and non-commercial advertising and Shack Sales to:

John Queen, Auto-Call Editor
755 Woodland Way, Owings, MD 20736
(301) 855-0198

WANTED: Operator's Manual and any other associated information for a Kenwood Model TS-180S SSB Transceiver. Also need proper 4-pin microphone for this unit. Joe Koester, 1020 Huron Drive, Crossville, TN, 38555, 931-788-1360, jwkoe@itlinl@.net

FOR SALE: Entire station for sale, includes Yaesu: FT 990 with all band width filters, Fl 7000 solid state linear, SP 6 speaker and YH phones. MFJ: 3 KW Tuner J986, SWR analyzer J259, antenna switch J1704 and Dummy load J264. Heil phones with mike attached. Palomar Tuner. Bencher paddle key. Low pass filter. All in excellent working condition. All manuals, connecting cables and two trapped dipoles. Asking $ 1995.00. Will keep rig connected until sale. If interested call Dave KE4CYY at (703) 525-1563.

WANTED: (1) Vibroplex Deluxe Semiautomatic keyer in WWII battleship gray (2) J-36 military keys by Vibroplex, Bunnell, Lionel, etc. (3) Coast Guard / Navy RM or MM Radio Officer's speed key in carrying case — for private collection by senior Coast Guard officer. Also other straight keys / bugs / keyers with naval history and incomplete / broken bugs for restoration parts. wb4rhb@arrl.net

FOR SALE: Antenna Tuner MFJ 962 Versa Tuner 1.5 KW, new condition, $60 firm. CW keys Bencher and straight, new condition, $25 each firm. Sharp PC-4501 computer, 256K ram, 720K floppy, exc. cond. $80/obo. Astatic mike, T-UG9 $8. khenders@ix.netcom.com, (703) 780-2939. N4HAM.

FOR SALE by original owner: Furnished split-foyer single dwelling of about 2K sq. feet. having brick front and 1/2 sides plus double-insulated vinyl. Located on 1/4 acre in Lee District, close to Huntley Meadows Park and near Ft. Belvoir. Very quiet area w/no through traffic. House is A/C.

Upper Level: 3 BR, 1 BA, 1 Ham Shack room; L/R w fireplace; 10' X 10' fully equipped kitchen; D/R leading to 115 sq. ft. deck; oak floors and W/W carpeting. Lower Level: 1 BA; Paneled rec. room; library w/fireplace; utility room w/W&D; 11 ft. workbench, etc, etc. Antenna Farm: 30' Rohn grandfathered tilt - over tower (non-guyed) w/ Mosley Classic 36 6 element HF beam and CD rotator; 2m Ringo Ranger @ 33 ft; 4 element 2m beam & rotator; 18" satellite TV dish; Mosley ground-mounted vertical; trapped inverted HF "V" cables etc, with manuals. In Shack: Drake MN4 matchbox; Kenwood TS820S H.F. w/analog-digital readouts; VFP ANC - 4 noise canceller; MJF Super Log Speech Processor; Azden PCS 7000H 50w 2m transceiver; DC power supply; manuals and numerous other items. (703) 780-5459 KA4MFF. jstreet42@erols.eom.

WANTED: Tubes, 860, 861, and 4-1000A pulls. Tube manual (Vade Mecum) 1948, By P.H. Brans. Also RCA 44BX microphone any condx. K4LJH@juno.com (540) 338-7845.

WANTED: Geiger counters, Geiger tubes similar to Raytheon CK1026 or any other Geiger-Muller tubes or radiation type detectors or items. New/Old/Working or non-working. Write to: Lee K3ECD, 6337 Evelyn St., Harrisburg, PA 17111-4206 or call (717) 564-4529 or e-mail K3ECD@worldnet.att.net. [06/99]

FOR SALE: Vacuum tube sale - 375. All tested - in boxes, tube bases - 4 pin, 5 pin, Loctal, Octal, Novar, Compactron. Priced as follows: $3.50 each or them all for $3.25 each. "Les" Werling (301) 662-4424 evenings.

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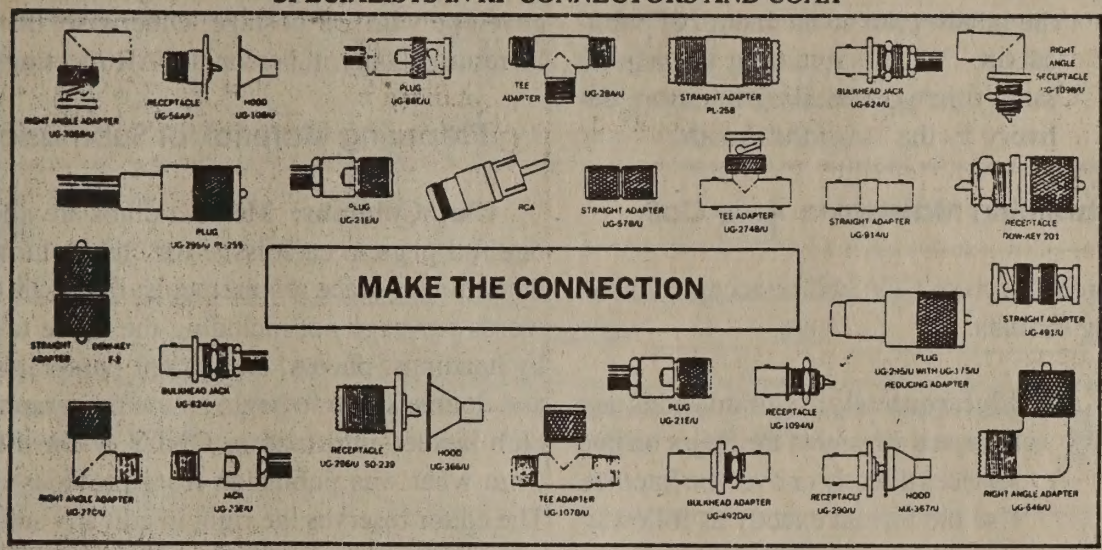

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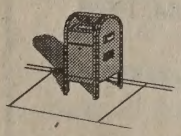

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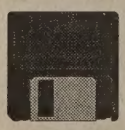

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Preparing Material for Submission

Club Columns: Member clubs are allocated one full page in each issue for club columns. In determining space requirements, figure about 700 words per page not including the space taken up by headings, photos, etc. Indent paragraphs .25" and double space to begin a new paragraph. Send club header information ONLY when different from what was published from previous month. The editor reserves the right to edit any submitted material for space, content and/or applicability.

Hamfests/Events: Member clubs are allocated one full page per year to promote one club sponsored hamfest, convention, or special event. Submit clean black & white camera ready copy only by mail. Master copy should be in black ink on white paper and should be in proper page ratio, (Copy space is 7" wide by 9" high). Copy can be reduced or enlarged as necessary. Electronic submissions of Hamfest ads will not be accepted.

Photographs: The editor will select the best photograph submitted for the cover each month. Photographs should depict club members, club stations, or amateur radio related events that are current and noteworthy. Clubs may also submit photographs for inclusion with their club column. Photographs will be used in columns when space permits. Either B&W or color photos can be used. For each photograph submitted, write your name, phone number, and club name, along with a description of the photograph on a piece of paper, and tape it on the back of the photograph. Do not write on the back of your photo. If you want your photos returned immediately, include a SASE envelope with sufficient postage. Otherwise, photos will be returned only in person at FAR meetings.

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		1 Antietam	2 BARC Montgomery	3 Anne Arundel	4 Mobileers Charles Co. Shenandoah	5 Green Mtn.
6 Kent Island	7 DOSARC	8 Leisure Frederick Woodbridge	9 VOA **FAR - VA** Exp Post	10 Fauquier AMRAD MADRAS Mid-Atlantic Mt. Vernon HEMARC	11 Vienna So. Maryland Alexandria	12 North Point
13	14 Carroll Co. Potomac	15 Antietam Arlington	16 BARC Montgomery Goddard QCWA 137	17 Anne Arundel	18 Shenandoah	19 Capital City QCWA 91
20	21 OVHA Sterling Park	22 Columbia	23 Laurel Exp Post Moose	24 MADRAS St. Mary	25 Vienna Central MD	26
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